O PE TO THE IN

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

JAN 26 2004
TC 1700

APPLICANT: Lasha A. Ross, Michael T. Bunczek SERIAL No.: 10/063,405

FILED: 04/19/2002

TITLE: CHEWING GUM BASE AND CHEWING GUM WITH ULTRA HIGH

MOLECULAR WEIGHT POLYVINYLACETATE

GROUP ART UNIT: 1761 EXAMINER: Arthur Corbin

Mail Stop – Appeal Brief - Patents Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks P.O Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 16, 2004

Dear Sir:

AMENDMENT

IN THE CLAIMS:

In response to item 1 of the Office Action

- 1. (original) A chewing gum base comprising:
- a) ultra high molecular weight polyvinylacetate with molecular weight ranging between about 100,000 and about 600,000 daltons;
- b) a plasticizer;
- c) and a filler.
- 2. (original) The chewing gum base of claim 1 wherein said plasticizer is selected from the group consisting of triacetin, acytylated mono- and di- and triglycerides of short chain fatty acids, acetlyated mono- and di- and triglycerides of medium chain fatty acids, acetylated monoglycerides of long chain fatty acids, methyl ester of rosin, low molecular weight PVAc and combinations therof.